

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/701,336

Examiner

Quang T Van

Applicant(s)

CHERRY, JOHN-PAUL FRANCIS

Art Unit

3742

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment After Final filed on 11/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5-10,12-19 and 21-62.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

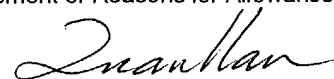
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



Quang T Van
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3742

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: allowance of claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-19, and 21-62 is indicated because the prior art of record does not show or suggest an enclosure disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation, is in fluid communication with the interior of the microwave oven after the enclosure is deformed as recited in claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-14; the step of emitting the vapor from the enclosure into the microwave oven, wherein the enclosure is deformable dispersion of the vapor as recited in claims 15-19; in combination the steps of placing a cleaning apparatus in the microwave oven, wherein the cleaning apparatus comprises a cleaning article and a surfactant solution at least partially surrounded by an enclosure, heating the cleaning apparatus for a time period , evaporating at least a portion of the surfactant solution to form a vapor, and emitting the vapor from the cleaning apparatus as recited in claims 21-28, 31-36; an enclosure disposed at least partially around a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation and the enclosure is deformable to enable the surfactant solution in fluid communication with the interior of the microwave oven as recited in claims 29-30; an enclosure disposed at least partially around a cleaning solution comprising a fragrance, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable release of the cleaning solution into the microwave oven interior as recited in claims 37-49; a cleaning article containing a cleaning solution, and enclosure at least partially enclosing the cleaning article, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the cleaning solution into the

Art Unit: 3742

microwave oven interior as recited in claims 50-54; cleaning article for effecting a cleaning process and a surfactant solution compatible with food preparation both at least partially enclosed by enclosure, wherein the enclosure is deformable to enable dispersion of the surfactant solution into the interior of the microwave oven as recited in claims 55-62.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang T Van whose telephone number is 703-306-9162. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00Am 7:00Pm M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 703-305-5766. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3742

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



QV

November 18, 2004



Quang T Van
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3742